MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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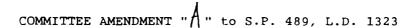


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_	2.2. 1323
2	DATE: June 16, 1995 (Filing No. S- 282)
4	
6	TRANSPORTATION
8 '	Reported by: Senator STEVENS of Androscoggin for the Committee.
10	Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate.
12 14	STATE OF MAINE SENATE
16	117TH LEGISLATURE FIRST REGULAR SESSION
18	
20	COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 489, L.D. 1323, Bill, "An Act to Widen the Maine Turnpike"
22	Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting
24	clause and before the statement of fact and inserting in its place the following:
26	'Sec. 1. 23 MRSA $\S1965$, sub- $\S1$, \PD , as amended by PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. MM, $\S4$, is further amended to read:
28	
30	D. Construct, maintain, reconstruct and operate a toll turnpike from a point at or near Kittery in York County to a point at or near Augusta in Kennebec County, except that the
32	traveled way may not be widened or expanded <u>beyond 3 lanes</u> for each direction of travel from Exit 1 to, and including,
34	Exit 6A and beyond 2 lanes for each direction of travel elsewhere on the turnpike without the express approval of
36	the Legislature.
38	-A- Except as provided in section 1965-A, a license, permit, or approval necessary for the widening or expansion of the
10	turnpike may not be issued by any state agency unless that agency makes an affirmative finding that the widening or
12	expansion is consistent with state transportation policy as well as rules implementing that policy;
14	Sec. 2. 23 MRSA §1965-A is enacted to read:

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§1965-A. Widening of the turnpike between Exit 1 and Exit 6-A

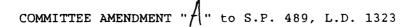
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	1. Evaluation of reasonable alternatives. No later than
4	December 15, 1996, the authority shall complete an evaluation of
_	the reasonable alternatives specified in this subsection to
6	widening the turnpike to 3 lanes for each direction of travel
•	from Exit 1 to, and including, Exit 6A. To evaluate reasonable
8	alternatives, the authority shall:
10	A. Convert the turnpike toll collection system to an
	automated electronic system designed to move traffic more
12	efficiently through toll plazas;
14	B. Complete an alternative mode feasibility study that
• ,	examines regional travel patterns and demographics and
16	provides an inventory of existing transportation
	infrastructure and employer-based commuter programs in the
18	study area;
20	
20	C. Develop and implement a rideshare program to promote vanpooling and carpooling, including funding and completion
22	of a park and ride facility at Exit 2; and
44	or a park and ride ractificy at bate 2, and
24	D. Complete a 2-year study of the effects of congestion
•	pricing on the turnpike and travel needs of the southern
26	part of the State.
28	In conducting the evaluation required by this subsection, the
	authority shall provide for public participation consistent with
30	the Sensible Transportation Policy Act and the rules adopted
	pursuant to that Act.
32	
34	Completion of the evaluation components specified in paragraphs A
34	to D satisfies the alternative evaluation requirements of the Sensible Transportation Policy Act and of the rules adopted
36	pursuant to that Act.
38	2. Review of alternatives. Upon completing the evaluation
	required under subsection 1, the authority shall review the
40	alternatives to determine if the alternatives can meet the
	identified transportation deficiency or need in a safe manner at
42	a reasonable cost with available technology. If, based on the
4.4	evaluation, the authority finds that the alternatives do not meet
44	the identified deficiency or need:
46	λ λ final license permit or approval necessary for the

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appropriate state agency; and

widening or expansion of the turnpike may be issued by the

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT





B. The alternative evaluation and preference requirements of section 73 and rules adopted pursuant to section 73 are considered satisfied.

Sec. 3. Maine Turnpike Authority to submit report and legislation. On or before January 15, 1996, the Maine Turnpike Authority shall submit a preliminary report on the evaluation of alternatives to widening the Maine Turnpike that is being conducted in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 23, section 1965-A to the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation. The preliminary report must include a progress report on each of the evaluation components and preliminary findings. On or before January 15, 1996, the Maine Turnpike Authority may submit legislation to authorize the issuance of revenue bonds to pay the cost or a portion of the cost of widening the turnpike to the Second Regular Session of the 117th Legislature.'

STATEMENT OF FACT

This amendment allows widening of the Maine Turnpike to 3 lanes for each direction of travel from Exit 1 to, and including, Exit 6A. It requires the Maine Turnpike Authority to complete an evaluation of alternatives by December 15, 1996 and specifies that evaluating the alternatives listed satisfies the requirements for alternative evaluation under the Sensible Transportation Policy Act and rules adopted under the Act. It allows a state agency to issue a permit or license for the widening if the completed evaluation indicates alternatives will not meet the identified need.

It requires the Maine Turnpike Authority to submit an interim report on the alternatives evaluation no later than January 15, 1996. It allows the authority to submit legislation no later than January 15, 1996 to authorize the issuance of revenue bonds to pay for the widening.

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT